

## CLAIMS:

5 1. A mouthguard of generally "C-shaped" configuration so as to provide a front portion and two arms diverting rearwardly from the front portion, the mouthguard being of a "U-shaped" transverse cross-section so as to provide an inner and an outer flange joined by a base, wherein said base has a lower surface providing a lower occusual table which is generally perpendicular to the inner flange.

10 2. A mouthguard of generally "C-shaped" configuration so as to provide a front portion and two arms diverting rearwardly from the front portion, the mouthguard being of a "U-shaped" transverse cross-section so as to provide an inner and an outer flange joined by a base, wherein the base has an upper occusual table which is inclined to the inner flange by an angle of between 100 and 120 degrees.

15 3. A mouthguard of generally "C-shaped" configuration so as to provide a front portion and two arms diverting rearwardly from the front portion, the mouthguard being of a "U-shaped" transverse cross-section so as to provide an inner and an outer flange joined by a base, wherein the mouthguard includes a thickened portion of said outer flange being provided at said front portion.

20 4. A mouthguard of generally "C-shaped" configuration so as to provide a front portion and two arms diverting rearwardly from the front portion, the mouthguard being of a "U-shaped" transverse cross-section so as to provide an inner and an outer flange joined by a base, wherein the base has a lower surface provided with a shield adjacent the outer flange extending substantially along each arm.

25 5. A mouthguard of generally "C-shaped" configuration so as to provide a front portion and two arms diverting rearwardly from the front portion, the mouthguard being of a "U-shaped" transverse cross-section so as to provide an inner and an outer flange joined by a base, wherein said base has an upper surface, with the forward portion thereof being raised relative to arm portions thereof.

30 6. A mouthguard of generally "C-shaped" configuration so as to provide a front portion and two arms diverting rearwardly from the front portion, the mouthguard being of a "U-shaped" transverse cross-section so as to provide an inner and an outer flange joined by a base wherein the mouthguard includes a body of a "C-shaped" configuration, with said arms having end extremities, said mouthguard further including a labial shield embedded in said front portion and extending therefrom through the arms to adjacent extremities thereof, said body and shield being formed of plastics material, with said shield being more rigid than said body.

7. The mouthguard of claim 6, wherein the shield is a single piece.

8. The mouthguard of claim 6, wherein said shield is formed of a set of shield members including a front part embedded in said front portion, and two rear parts separate to the front part, each rear part being located in a respective one of the arms.

5 9. A mouthguard body of generally "C-shaped" configuration so as to provide a front portion and two arms diverting rearwardly from the front portion, the mouthguard body being of a "U-shaped" transverse cross-section so as to provide an inner and an outer flange joined by a base, wherein internal surfaces of the body are provided with key means to engage a mouldable material to be received within the body.

10. The mouthguard body of claim 9, wherein the keying means are deformable projections.

10 11. The mouthguard body of claim 10, wherein the deformable projections are located on said base.

12. The mouthguard of claim 9, ~~10 or 11~~ wherein said keying means are ridges.

13. The mouthguard body of claim 12, wherein said ridges are formed on internal surfaces of said inner and outer flanges.

15 14. A mouthguard having a mouthguard body according to any one of claims 9 to 13, and mouldable material contained within the mouthguard body.

15. The mouthguard of claim 14 when appended to claim 10, wherein the projections are deformed to engage the mouldable material.

16. The mouthguard of claim 14 or 15 wherein the mouldable material is vinyl containing polydimethylsiloxane.

20 17. The mouthguard of claim 16, wherein the mouthguard body is formed of an EVA copolymer.

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